

WE CLAIM:

1. An breathable, liquid impervious material suitable for a containment flap in an absorbent article.

2. The material of Claim 3 wherein the material has a WVTR value of greater than about 5,000 gsm/24 hrs.

3. The material of Claim 1 wherein the material is a laminate of thermoplastic film and nonwoven facing materials.

4. The material of Claim 3 wherein the nonwoven facing material is a polypropylene spunbond.

5. The material of Claim 3 wherein the material is a laminate of a layer of nonwoven facing material of about 0.4 osy basis weight and necked to about 45% of its original width and including spunbond substantially continuous polypropylene fibers and a layer of about a 1.25 osy basis weight polyether block amide film.

6. The material of Claim 1 wherein the material comprises a microporous film.

7. The material of Claim 1 wherein:

- a) the material has a first axis and a second axis, and
- b) the material has a Young's modulus of up to about 14 psi/% in the first axis.

8. The material of Claim 7 wherein the material has a Young's modulus of up to about 212 psi/% in the second axis.

9. An absorbent article comprising:

- a) an absorbent chassis, the chassis having a longitudinal axis;
- b) a containment flap comprising a breathable liquid impervious barrier material, the flap having a free edge and an attached edge, the attached edge being attached to the chassis.

10. The absorbent article according to Claim 9 wherein the barrier material comprises a microporous film.

11. The absorbent article of Claim 9 wherein the containment flap comprises a transversely extendible film.

12. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the containment flap has a long axis and a transverse axis, the long axis being parallel to the longitudinal axis of the chassis, the flap having a tensioning force in its long axis, the flap having a low modulus of elasticity in its transverse axis and being extendible in its transverse axis.

13. The absorbent article of Claim 12 wherein the modulus of elasticity is about 14 psi/% or lower.

14. The absorbent article of Claim 12 wherein the tensioning force is sufficient to produce extension of the flap in the transverse direction.

15. The absorbent article of Claim 9 wherein the flap is integral with an outer cover of the article.

16. The absorbent article of Claim 9 wherein the flap includes elastics within the flap to supply the tensioning force.

17. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the transversely extendible film is a microporous film of about 10 to about 68 weight percent predominately linear polyolefin polymer about 2 to about 20 weight percent of a bonding agent, and about 30 to about 80 weight percent particulate filler.

18. The absorbent article of Claim 17 wherein the polyolefin polymer is a linear low density polyethylene.

19. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the microporous film comprises a filler and first and second polymers, the first polymer being a blend of ethylene and propylene.

20. The absorbent article of Claim 9 wherein the containment flap comprises a spunbond material.

21. The absorbent article of Claim 20 wherein the spunbond material is a polyolefin.

22. The absorbent article of Claim 21 wherein the spunbond material is polypropylene.

23. The absorbent article of Claim 9 wherein the flap comprises crimped nonwoven/extensible film laminates.

24. The absorbent garment of Claim 23 wherein the film comprises a stretched microporous film.

25. The absorbent article of Claim 9, comprising one of a diaper; a training pant; an article of swim wear; an absorbent underpant; an adult incontinence article; a feminine hygiene article; or a medical protective garment.